7/8/69

Ind. Coal

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

BUREAU OF MINES AND MINING

of the

STATE OF INDIANA

January 1, 1968 to December 31, 1968

HON. EDGAR WHITCOMB
Governor

CHARLES A. PURCELL
Director

INDIANA ROOM

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library

INDIANA
BUREAU OF MINES AND MINING

542 Margaret Avenue
Terre Haute, Indiana

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Joan E. Porter, Secretary
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Bert McCray
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MINING BOARD

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SUMMARY OF DEPARTMENT

In 1937, the Division of Labor was created and the Mining Department was brought under this Division and is now known as the Bureau of Mines and Mining.

William H. Lanam is the Commissioner of Labor.

Our Mine Rescue Station has the necessary equipment to perform mine rescue work and to assist in mine fires. All personel of the Bureau of Mines and Mining are subject to call at all times.

In order to promote safety the best way possible in the Coal Mine Industry, the Indiana Bureau of Mines and Mining joins together with the United Mine Workers of America, The Indiana Coal Operators Association, the Federal Bureau of Mines, and the Lynch Reciprocal Coal Operators Association in forming The Indiana Joint Committee for Coal Mine Safety. This committee meets once every month and each coal mine reports on accidents that have occurred during the month and recommendations, hoping to prevent such accidents from reoccurring. This committee devotes its entire program to promoting safety in coal mines and sponsors the Indiana State First Aid Contest, which is held annually.

FATALITY

We are sorry to report the coal mine industry had one (1) fatality during the year 1968.

At Kings Mine, Princeton, Gibson County, Indiana on May 4, 1968 at about 12:45 p.m. Mr. George Vash was injured, and died at 4:10 a.m. on May 14, 1968 in St. Mary's Hospital, Evansville, Indiana.

The victim (George Vash) and a co-worker, who were working together as roof bolters on the same machine, were installing roof bolts in No. 26 room off No. 1 entry 3 west section off 3 south. Before the cycle was started, a roof jack was installed to support the loose roof material while roof bolts were being installed. During the installation of the first row of roof bolts in this cycle, the dust collector on the drill on the right side of the machine failed to operate. Previous instructions had been given by officials to all roof bolters not to operate drills when dust collectors were not operating effectively. The co-worker stated that he and Vash decided to complete the roof bolting in room No. 26 before they changed to another machine by using the drill on the left side of the machine. In order to do this, it would have been necessary to reposition the machine several times. While Vash was installing the last bolt in the first row, co-worker took his position at the main controls to reposition the machine for the next row of bolts. As the last bolt was tightened, the loose roof material raised, and released the roof jack. When the jack fell, it struck the operating controls on the boom of the machine, which lowered the boom on the left side where Vash was working. After this occurrence, Vash told the co-worker not to move the machine. While standing between the machine and the coal face in front of the machine, Vash placed his head and shoulders between the side of the machine and the close left rib in an effort to reach the controls to raise the boom before moving. Instead of grasping the raise-and-lower lever, he mistakenly pulled the control lever which activated the sliding mechanism of the drill boom. The boom traveled only a short distance toward the left rib where the victim was caught, causing the fatal injuries.

Recommendation: Operators of equipment should make sure they are always in safe location before controls are engaged.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF ACCIDENTS

Year	Tons Produced	No. Employed	Fatalities	Tons per Fatality
1960	4,674,128	1,861	3	1,558,042
1961	4,573,329	1,744	25	182,933
1962	4,279,900	1,699	6	713,317
1963	4,143,301	1,374	2	2,071,650
1964	3,525,515	1,008	0	NONE
1965	2,323,884	859	0	NONE
1966	1,871,648	433	1	1,871,648
1967	1,617,833	485	3	539,277
1968	2,148,620	524	1	2,148,620

MINE INSPECTIONS

The Bureau of Mines and Mining is required to make four (4) Initial Inspections of each mine in the State of Indiana per year, and as many Spot Inspections as deemed necessary. The total Initial Inspections and Spot Inspections made during the year 1968 is as follows:

36 Initial Inspections

37 Spot Inspections

EMPLOYMENT AND TONNAGE TABLE OF DEEP SHAFT COAL MINES OF INDIANA ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1968

Mine	Total Production	Average Number of Employees	Number of Days Worked
GIBSON COUNTY			
Kings Station	841,419	189	223
Somerville	18,518	9	221
Total:	859,937	198	453
KNOX COUNTY			
White Ash	20,495	14	82
Total:	20,495	14	82
PIKE COUNTY			
R & H	26,950	6	252
Total:	26,950	6	252
SULLIVAN COUNTY			
R S. & K Mine #1	114,864	20	227
Thunderbird	1,024,252	247	246½
Total	1,139,116	267	473½
VIGO COUNTY			
Mt. Pleasant	74,042	20	216
Total	74,042	20	216
WARRICK COUNTY			
Boon	17,150	12	221
Houston	10,930	7	226
Total:	28,080	19	447
GRAND TOTALS	2,148,620	524	1813½

EXAMINATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1968

Place	Date	Mine Boss	No. Pass.	Fire Boss	No. Pass.	Hoist Engr.	No. Pass.	Shot Firer	No. Pass	Total Passed	Fees Collected
Terre Haute	4/20/68	0	0	3	2	1	1	7	7	10	$54.00
Terre Haute	10/19/68	0	0	0	0	4	4	1	1	5	25.00
Totals:		0	0	3	2	5	5	8	8	15	$79.00

BUREAU OF MINES AND MINING GEOLOGICAL TABLE

Company	Mine	Depth (Over-Lying Strata)	Seam and Thickness of Seam	Character of Coal
		GIBSON COUNTY		
Kings Station Coal Co.	Kings	450′	V–6′	Bituminous
Somerville Coal Co.	Somerville	220′	V–7′	Bituminous
		KNOX COUNTY		
Sunshine Coal Corp.	White Ash	115′	VII–4′6″	Bituminous
		PIKE COUNTY		
R & H Mining Co.	R & H	110′	V–6″	Bituminous
		SULLIVAN COUNTY		
R S & K Mining Co.	Mine #1	160′	VI–5′8″	Bituminous
Thunderbird Collieries	Thunderbird	220′ Slope	V–5′8″	Bituminous
		VIGO COUNTY		
Mt. Pleasant Mining Co.	Mt. Pleasant	120′	V–5′6″	Bituminous
		WARRICK COUNTY		
Boon Coal Co.	Boon	120′	V–6′6″	Bituminous
C & H Coal Co.	Houston	90′	V–6′	Bituminous

INDIANA MINE DIRECTORY

Company	Address	Mine	Location
		GIBSON COUNTY	
King Station Coal Corp.	P.O. Box 4, Princeton	Kings	3 mi. south of Princeton
Somerville Coal Co.	Somerville	Somerville	2 mi. north-east of Somerville
		KNOX COUNTY	
Sunshine Coal Corp.	Weatland	White Ash	5 mi. west of Wheatland
		PIKE COUNTY	
R & H Mining Co.	R.R.#1, Jasper	R & H	5 mi. southeast of Petersburg
		SULLIVAN COUNTY	
R S & K Coal Co.	R.R.#2, Shelburn	Mine #1	1 mi. east of Shelburn
Thunderbird Colleries	R.R.#1, Farmersburg	Thunderbird	2 mi. northwest of Shelburn
		VIGO COUNTY	
Mt. Pleasant Mining Co.	R.R.#4, Terre Haute	Mt. Pleasant	3 mi. southeast of Terre Haute
		WARRICK COUNTY	
Boon Coal Co.	R.R.#2, Boonville	Boon	1½ mi. north of Chandler
C & H Coal Co.	824 N. 9th, Boonville	Houston	2½ mi. north of Boonville

STRIP MINE INSPECTIONS FOR 1968

Inspections were made of Strip Mines:

41 Initial Inspections 32 Spot Inspections

FATALITIES

We are sorry to report that the Strip Mine Industry had four (4) fatalities for the year 1968.

At the Enos Coal Corporation's Blackfoot #5 Strip Mine, located in Pike County, on March 20, 1968 at 11:45 a.m. Mr. Henry O. Coplen, age 56, a shovel operator, was fatally injured.

Mr. Coplen was being relieved at the controls of the stripping shovel. The shovel was stripping at the time. It was regular procedure for Mr. Coplen to inspect and oil the tramming machinery on the ground level at the time he was being relieved. The shovel was located against the spoil incline. This shovel has a protective guard between the cats to keep the rock from rolling under the shovel; however, it is not adequate enough to stop rock of the size that caused the accident.

A tractor operator saw Mr. Coplen go under the shovel and stated he had seen him about three or four minutes before he heard the rock roll down the incline and strike the under structure of the shovel. He immediately climbed off the tractor and went to see if Mr. Coplen was all right. Mr. Coplen was lying on the ground and bleeding badly about the head. His body was back from the bottom of the spoil incline about fifteen feet, and under the protection of the shovel structure. There was a large sand-stone rock, 26 inches by 26 inches by 32 inches lying against Mr. Coplen's head, indicating it had rolled over his entire body. He was pronounced dead at the scene due to massive internal injuries, fractured skull, and brain concussion.

Recommendation: Adequate guards or other protective devices should be provided around the tramming machine. Equipment should not be inspected or oiled while in motion, unless safe remote oiling devices are used. All employees should be orally instructed by a responsible official to refrain from entering restricted areas while such equipment is in motion.

On Friday, June 7, 1968, Mr. Minuard Russell, age 26, was fatally injured at Blackfoot #5 Strip Mine located in Pike County.

Mr. Russell was driving a sprinkling truck and had sprinkled the road from the office out to the shed used by the car-cleaner employees. He had stopped at the shed and talked with two employees. Both men stated that Mr. Russell left them just a few minutes before the time of accident, and drove toward the highway. They heard a loud report like an explosion, and saw flames rising from the place of the accident. One employee went to the office to call for help, and the other went to

FATALITIES—Continued

the scene of the accident, but could not get to the victim because of the flames. Mr. Russell was pronounced dead when removed from the wreckage, as was the driver of the other vehicle.

It was the opinion of the investigating police and sheriffs departments that Mr. Russell had driven out onto the highway from the east side of the company road and the 1966 Plymouth Station Wagon traveling south on Highway #61 struck the truck. The impact was on the right side of the truck at the cab, and the gasoline tank ruptured igniting the twenty-seven gallons of gasoline which was in the truck.

It cannot be determined why Mr. Russell drove past the turning area on to the highway, as the truck was not licensed to drive off company property.

On Monday, June 10th, 1968, at about 10:00 a.m. at the Peabody Coal Company's Dugger Mine, located in Sullivan County, Mr. James R. Miller, age 39, an electrician, was fatally injured in a fall.

Mr. Miller was working alone, installing an intercom in the operators cab of the dragline. Due to the heat of the cab, someone had opened the glass window-door in front of the operators controls, and while performing his duties, Mr. Miller fell approximately 40 ft. to the ground. There were no eyewitnesses, although other employees were close by.

Mr. Miller was taken to Mary Sherman Hospital, Sullivan, Indiana. He suffered multiple body fractures, brain concussion, and internal injuries. He expired at 1:15 p.m. the same day.

ABANDONED STRIP MINES

Chieftain Strip mine, owned by Peabody Coal Co. and located in Vigo County, was reported to have been abandoned as of July 5, 1968.

NEW STRIP MINES

The new Latta Mine and Miller Preparation Plant are located 2 miles southeast of Jasonville, Indiana, along the Shankling Street Road, and are served by the Milwaukee and Monon Railroads.

The mine was opened July 1968, and current mining is in the Indiana No. 3 coalbed which averages 30 inches in thickness at the present location.

A total of 63 men were employed, with the mine producing a daily average of 3,500 tons of coal. Life expectancy of the mine is estimated by management to be indefinite.

The P & D Mine #1, P & D Coal Company, is a stripping operation located approximately 3 miles south of Petersburg in Pike County. The mine was opened on August 5, 1968, with a total employment of four men. The average daily production was, in August, 100 tons of coal, all of which was loaded into trucks by a diesel-powered shovel. The life of the mine is estimated to be indefinite.

EMPLOYMENT AND TONNAGE REPORTED OF STRIP MINES OF INDIANA ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1968

Mine	Total Production	No. Employees
	CLAY COUNTY	
Ashboro & Cardonia Pitts	26,717	26
Dierdorf	1,300	3
Chinook	1,035,346	unknown
Riddell	228	none
TOTAL REPORTED	1,063,591	
	DAVIESS COUNTY	
J & H	10,500	13
TOTAL REPORTED	10,500	
	FOUTAIN COUNTY	
Maple Grove	refused to report	
	GIBSON COUNTY	
Ayrecoe	368,755	
TOTAL REPORTED	368,755	
	GREENE COUNTY	
Comet	failed to report	
Harris	40,000	6 to 8
Hawthorn	1,507,065	
Lohr	failed to report	
Old Glory	490,159	
Latta	340,969	
TOTAL REPORTED:	2,342,193	

	PARKE COUNTY	
Turner	failed to report	
	PIKE COUNTY	
Blackfoot #5	failed to report	
Enos	1,663,885	
Parke	50,561.58	13
TOTAL REPORTED	1,714,446.58	
	SULLIVAN COUNTY	
Minnehaha	1,735,956	
Sassy Ann	3,200	
Dugger	579,903	
TOTAL REPORTED	2,319,059	
	VIGO COUNTY	
Chieftain	222,859	
	WARRICK COUNTY	
Lynnville	3,520,464	
Millersburg	132,514	17
Squaw Creek	1,482,222	
Victoria	244,655	
Wright	1,176,793	
TOTAL REPORTED	6,556,648	
GRAND TOTAL REPORT:	14,598,051	

INDIANA MINE DIRECTORY FOR STRIP MINES

Company	Address	Strip Mine	Location
		CLAY COUNTY	
Indiana Coal & Clay sales	Carbon	Indiana Coal & Clay	West of Carbon
Central Coal & Clay Co.	Harmony	Riddell	South of Centerpoint
Log Cabin Coal & Clay Co.	Brazil	Ashboro Pit	East of Ashboro
Log Cabin Coal & Clay Co.	Brazil	Cardonia Pit	East of Cardonia
Dierdorf Coal Co.	R.R. 4, Brazil	Dierdorf	South of Brazil
Ayrshire Collieries Corp.	Staunton	Chinook	South of Staunton
		DAVIESS COUNTY	
J & H Coal Co.	Loogootee	J & H	West of Whitfield
		FOUNTAIN COUNTY	
Maple Grove Coal Co.	Rockville	Maple Grove	West of Silverwood
		GREENE COUNTY	
Comet Coal & Clay Co.	Linton	Comet	East of Switz City
Harris Mining Co.	Jasonville	Harris	South of Jasonville
Peabody Coal Co.	Carlisle	Hawthorn	No. West of Sandborn
Al Lohr Coal Co.	Linton	Lohr	No. East of Switz City
Peabody Coal Co.	Coal City	Old Glory	S. West of Worthington
		OWEN COUNTY	
Burcham Bros.	Clay City	Burcham	North of Coal City

		PARKE COUNTY	
S.L. Turner Coal & Clay	Carbon	Turner	North of Carbon
		PIKE COUNTY	
Enos Coal Corp.	Oakland City	Blackfoot #5	North of Winslow
Enos Coal Corp.	Oakland City	Ebos	N. East of Spurgeon
Parke Coal Co.	Petersburg	Parke	North of Petersburg
		SPENCER COUNTY	
Mulzer Brothers	Tell City	Mulzer	N. East of Chrisney
C. Loran Day Coal Co.	Petersburg	Santa Claus	South of Santa Claus
		SULLIVAN COUNTY	
Ayrshire Collieries Corp.	Sullivan	Minnehaha	N. East of Dugger
S.A. Coal Corp.	Jasonville	Sassy Ann	East of Wilford
		WARRICK COUNTY	
Cornell Excavating Inc.	Boonville	Cornell	South of Lynnville
Lemmon Co. Inc.	Boonville	Lemmon	North of Boonville
Peabody Coal Co.	Lynnville	Lynnville	South of Lynnville
J & R Coal Mining Corp.	Boonville	Millersburg	S. East of Millersburg
Scales Coal Inc.	Boonville	Tennyson	S. West of Tennyson
Squaw Creek Coal Co.	Boonville	Squaw Creek	N. West of Boonville
Peabody Coal Co.	Boonville	Victoria	S. West of Boonville
Thunderbird Collieries	Boonville	Wright	South of Boonville

GEOLOGICAL TABLE FOR STRIP MINES

Company	Mine	Seam and Thickness of Seam
	CLAY COUNTY	
Indiana Coal & Clay Sales	Indiana Coal & Clay	Rider of upped block-30"
Log Cabin Coal & Clay Co.	Ashboro Pit	Brazil Block-30"
Log Cabin Coal & Clay Co.	Cardonia Pit	Brazil Block-36"
Dierdorf Coal Co.	Dierdorf	Brazil Block-40"
Ayrshire Collieries Corp.	Chinook	III-65"
	DAVIESS COUNTY	
J & H Coal Co.	J & H	Loogootee Semi-block-30"
	FOUNTAIN COUNTY	
Maple Grove Coal Co.	Maple Grove	Uncorrelated-48"
	GREENE COUNTY	
Comet Coal & Clay Co.	Comet	Uncorrelated-24"
Harris Mining Co.	Harris	V-72"
Peabody Coal Co.	Hawthorn	V-36"
Al Lohr Coal Co.	Lola	Brazil Semi-block-26"
Peabody Coal Co.	Old Glory	Brazil Semi-block-30"
Peabody Coal Co.	Latta	III-30"
	OWEN COUNTY	
Burcham Bros.	Burcham	Brazil Block-30"
	PARKE COUNTY	
S.L. Turner Coal & Clay	Turner	Brazil Block-24"
	PIKE COUNTY	
Enos Coal Corp.	Blackfoot #5	V-48"
Enos Coal Corp.	Enos	V-54"
Parke Coal Co.	Parke	V-60"
P & D Coal Co.	P & D #1	VI-18" VII-42"
	SPENCER COUNTY	
Mulzer Brothers	Mulzer	V-36"
C. Loran Day Coal Co.	Santa Claus	Spencer Co. Block-25"
	SULLIVAN COUNTY	
Ayshire Collieries Corp	Minnehaha	VI-72" VII-44"
S.A. Coal Corp.	Sassy Ann	VII-45"
	WARRICK COUNTY	
Cornell Excavating Inc.	Cornell	VI-36"
Lemmon Co. Inc.	Lemmon	V-72"
Peabody Coal Co.	Lynnville	Millersburg Coalbed-46"
J. & R. Coal Mining Corp.	Millersburg	VI-72"
Scales Coal Inc.	Tennyson	V-36"
Squaw Creek Coal Co.	Squaw Creek	VI-50"
Peabody Coal Co.	Victoria	V-48"
Thunderbird Collieries	Wright	V-48"

GYPSUM MINING

This office inspects two gypsum mines for the Division of Labor. These mines are the U.S. Gypsum Mine, and the National Gypsum Mine located at Shoals, Indiana, Martin County.

The remarkable Safety Record of the Gypsum Mines didn't just happen. Their safety rules are strictly enforced. Each employee is required to wear safety glasses. There is complete cooperation between workmen and management in regards to safety. No place of employment can have a good Safety Record without Cooperation from both parties.